



# JORDAN TIMES

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## Paving the way

AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI is consolidating his grip over the affairs of Iran and paving the way for what has been termed the revival of Islam as a practical way of life.

The struggle between former Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar and Khomeini was short-lived. Khomeini's handling of the situation was nothing less than masterful. The outcome goes to show the relative strengths of the combination of religion and nationalism, as against the weaker reformist and liberalising forces, in Third World countries. Mr. Bakhtiar, who seemed to be working for a secular democratic state, lost. His frantic attempts at reform: dissolving the Shah's hated secret service, Savak, and bringing corrupt government officials to trial, were ironically brushed aside as insignificant by the public. Such is the logic of revolution. His rearguard action, "holding on for the last quarter of an hour," to allow passions to cool and liberalising tendencies to emerge before holding new elections for parliament failed. What he might have achieved must remain a mystery.

Khomeini would have been a fool to wait. As a revolutionary he had to press ahead: he gauged the situation with brilliant insight and handled it with consummate skill. He will no doubt fight corruption with greater zeal, and more effectively, than Bakhtiar could have. He has defused the possibility of a military takeover, which Bakhtiar probably could not have done. His vaunted Islamic republic might well evolve a commendable welfare system and reinstate moral values that were sorely missed.

The vast majority of those who ousted the former regime in Iran were protesting against the dissolution of traditional values, the insignificant role of religion and the lack of conscience among public officials. That is not to say they will all welcome the omnipresence of religion and its intrusion into every aspect of daily life. Theocracies do not tolerate dissent, nor do they place much store by individual liberties which we associate with Western democracies. An Islamic republic may be democratic, but a liberal pluralistic democracy it will not be. Dissent might easily be taken for sacrilege.

The fact that political evolution in Iran has been stunted is not Khomeini's fault. Within the Khomeini-led alliance, and the cabinet that his right hand man, Mr. Mehdi Bazargan, has formed, there are members of the National Front who advocate democracy, liberalisation and constitutional reform along Western lines. Their voice may be relatively weak, but they do have Khomeini's ear. What will emerge in the long run is anyone's guess at this point.

## ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I Tuesday notes that the joint Jordanian-Yugoslav communique on a Middle East peace settlement was issued at a time when the U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown was arriving in Amman.

The joint communique, issued at the end of President Josip Broz Tito's visit to Jordan, talks at length about peace; and we suppose that the Defence Secretary knows of it and so also the U.S. Administration, the newspaper says.

Whereas the U.S., since the beginning of President Jimmy Carter's term of office, has shown a special interest in the question of peace in the Middle East, the Jordanian-Yugoslav phraseology that cannot be misinterpreted in any way should be taken into account in the American peace assessments: because these declarations stem from the reality of the Arab-Zionist conflict and deal with aspects of the conflict until a just and permanent peace is achieved in the area.

Warning against a prevailing American idea that a divided Arab World would inevitably lead to a divided solution of the conflict, the newspaper says this idea was disputed by the joint communique which clearly stated that "any attempt to impose a solution at the expense of the Arab countries and the Palestinian people will only prolong the conflict and increase difficulties in finding peaceful and durable settlement."

Harping on the same note Jum'a Hammad in his daily column "Words" in Al Ra'i says the success or failure of Mr. Brown's tour of the Middle East is mainly connected with the policy the U.S. has been adopting for decades. The U.S. secretary knows, more than anybody else, the tremendous American arms supplies and vast American economic, technological and moral assistance to Israel. This support has enabled Israel to expand horizontally and perpendicularly and to increasingly threaten the neighbouring Arab countries, defying the relevant U.N. resolutions and international human rights, Mr. Hammad writes.

"Let Mr. Brown not imagine one day that he would be able to ride the Arab and Israeli horse at the same time," Mr. Hammad says.

Dealing with the fast-moving events in Iran AL DUSTOUR says that Feb. 12, 1979, will enter in Iran's history as a "decisive" day in which not only a regime and an epoch were changed but also a way of life, a philosophy of existence and a message of a nation.

The editorial says that this day will have its long-range impact not only in respect to Iran but in respect to the world at large.

But, the newspaper continues, if the political and military victory scored by Ayatollah Khomeini's "revolt" means the end of a race, it also means the beginning of another race more difficult and more dangerous. It is a race that requires translating a "symbol" into "reality" and a "slogan" into "fact". In short, it is the translation of the revolt into a state disciplined by adequate regulations, laws and institutions.

# Social security to start paying

## benefits to labour in one year

By Ron Cathell  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Benefits from Jordan's social security scheme won't be felt by labour for at least one year. It will take that long for the new Social Security Corporation to be set up and start paying accident and retirement compensation to workers.

"It will be at least one year before the corporation starts functioning," Under-secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Dr. Jawad Anani, told the Jordan Times yesterday. "If we are lucky, it will start on Jan. 1, 1980."

The social security law was passed on Oct. 16 last year. Board members have been chosen but a director general has not been appointed by the cabinet to head the new agency.

When the post is filled, which is expected within two weeks, the director general and the board of directors can meet to set the by-laws of the corporation and means of recruiting and training personnel. The agency can then start contacting companies and compiling the mass of information necessary to perform its duties. There will be social security branches throughout the Kingdom.

Although 15 people were considered to head the new agency, only one was nominated — Dr. Jawad Anani. It appears certain that he will be appointed. Already

the Ministry of Labour has begun a search for someone to replace him as under-secretary.

The new director general will also be deputy chairman of the board.

The social security law provides for insurance benefits in five different categories, although only the first two will be operative initially. They are: 1) monthly retirement pensions; 2) work-related accident insurance; 3) unemployment benefits; 4) general health insurance; and 5) family assistance.

Dr. Anani compares social security to pregnancy.

"You can't be just a little bit pregnant," he said. "You either are or you aren't. The same is with social security. You can't just have a little bit. You must have a full programme." Dr. Anani has been involved since the beginning in formulating the social security law. Within five years the social security fund will have assets of JD 50-60 million, he says. Much of this will be used to invest in social projects—such as housing schemes, consumer cooperatives, for which finance is not otherwise available.

Dr. Anani believes the social security law to be the most important legislation passed in Jordan in the last five years "because it marks the beginning of socio-economic development and

change. Before, we considered the two aspects as different issues. But now we are regarding them jointly."

The new law also signifies a break in the traditional paternalistic employer-employee relationship, which will be replaced by contractual employment in which the worker will sell his time or services.

"The weaker party, the labourer, is now able to help himself. He no longer merely receives, but also contributes to the social security scheme," he said. "In the long run, this will lead to a more democratic and dignified system. The retired worker won't receive his pension because he needs it, as though it were charity. He will take it because he feels he has earned it, he deserves it." For the first time the worker will be required to contribute to the insurance scheme—the equivalent of five per cent of his monthly salary.

The new law will provide better end-of-job compensation by introducing monthly retirement pensions in place of lump sum payments. This will prove more valuable to the worker in the long run than receiving a lump sum on retirement, equivalent to one month's salary for each year of employment, as provided by the labour law that has been in force.

For example, after 15 years employment the worker will be able to draw a pension worth about 30 per cent of his monthly salary. At this rate, after only four years, he would have already received the equivalent of the lump sum payment to which he was entitled under the old scheme. But with the new system, he will of course be able to continue drawing a pension as long as he lives.

The employer's contribution won't change significantly. He will still contribute the equivalent of

two per cent of the worker's monthly salary, but he will be required to make regular payments to the social security fund instead of paying out lump sums occasionally and investing the insurance premiums for his own profit in the meantime.

This will also benefit the economy, the government feels, by absorbing some of the excess liquidity which is in private hands at present and putting this into productive investments.

Dr. Anani believes social security will also help stabilise the problem of labour emigration. A large portion of Jordan's labour force has been lured to Europe, North America and the Gulf states where jobs with appealing salaries are readily available.

"If people can be assured of a good income here, they won't go abroad," he said.

When the social security corporation begins to function, much of its initial compensation payments will be to on-the-job accident victims. If the payments are too high, the corporation will interpret this to mean that more adequate safety regulations are required, and recommend that such measures be taken.

"Industry now sometimes finds it cheaper to pay health bills than to implement safety features," Dr. Anani said. "But we, as a third party, may see to this differently and take punitive action against those businesses which have a high accident rate."

The corporation may use its authority to raise an employer's social security payment above the normal two per cent of each employee's salary to "maybe four per cent or more. We hope this would make them consider introducing safety measures. We must give preferential treatment to those taking care of their employees," Dr. Anani said.

## Iranian embassy in Jordan

### declares loyalty to new regime

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Iranian embassy staff here have announced their support and loyalty to "the people's Islamic revolution in Iran led by the religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini."

A statement handed to the Jordan News Agency by an embassy representative said "the whole staff declare their full solidarity with Dr. Mehdi Bazargan, the first Prime Minister of the Islamic revolutionary government of Iran."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### Book Exhibit

The British Council presents an exhibition of books and periodicals on agricultural education. The exhibition is open during regular hours.

### Photo Documentary Exhibit

The French Cultural Centre has a documentary exhibition on display about Georges Sand. Open during regular hours.

### German Film

The Goethe Institute presents part II of the film by Eberhard Fechner entitled "Tadellöser und Wolff" which is based on a novel by Walter Kempowski. The film starts at 8:00 p.m.

### Photo Exhibit

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents a photo display commemorating the sixty-first anniversary of the establishment of the Soviet armed forces.

## THREE AUTOMOBILES FOR SALE

(Customs Paid)

1971 VW Blue Station Wagon Model 4112  
1972 White Peugeot 404  
1973 White Peugeot 404

These units will be sold individually to the highest bidder. They will be on display at the Amman Baptist School (near Askan housing development) at the following times only:

Thursday Feb. 15th from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday Feb. 16th — 8:00 - 4:00 p.m.

A JD 25 refundable deposit is required for each unit at the time the bid is placed. Bids will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16. At 5:00 p.m. the bids will be opened and the highest bidder informed.

Terms: cash sale with no guarantee as to performance or condition. No telephone calls accepted.

Jordan Baptist Mission

Her Majesty Queen Noor meets with Minister of Health Abdul Rauf Al Rawabdeh (to her right), Director of Royal Medical Services Maj. Gen. Dawood Hananiya (to her left) and other officials in Amman Tuesday. The Queen also attended a celebration for children Tuesday in recognition of the anniversary of the Prophet's birthday last Thursday.

## Queen Noor attends children's celebration

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Her Majesty Queen Noor this afternoon attended a celebration held by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs in cooperation with the care for children society at the Haya Arts Centre on the occasion of the Prophet's birthday anniversary.

The function included stage and cultural performances given by some 200 children from various child welfare societies.

At the end of the ceremony, which was attended by the minister of awqaf, the Queen distributed presents and prizes.

Queen Noor also chaired a meeting at the Ministry of Health today to discuss matters related to coordination of nursery education in the three nursery schools in

Jordan. The meeting was attended by the minister of health and other officials.

## King Hussein receives Lebanese delegation

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening a delegation from the Lebanese "Amal" (Hope) movement including members of parliament Mr. Hussein Al Hussein who is the secretary general of the movement, and members Ahmad Qubelsi and Ahmad Ismail.

## Economic News Roundup

### W. Germany to loan Jordan 1.5 m. marks

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Jordan and West Germany exchanged here today memos for technical cooperation and aid. The memo exchanged by the West German Ambassador to Jordan Dr. Hans Schmidt-Dornedden and the Minister of Transport Ali Sulaiman would grant Jordan a 1.5 million mark loan to finance construction services for the Aqaba railway corporation and extend for one year the term of service of a West German team of specialists working for the railway.

### Finance minister opens Arab customs committee meeting

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Finance Minister Mohammad Dabbas opened here today a meeting of the Arab customs committee formed by the Council of Arab Economic Unity. During the ten-day meetings the participants will discuss among other things adoption of unified customs declaration form to be used by council member states; a unified formula to settle customs violations and cases of smuggling; unification of customs tariffs on primary materials as the statutes for a projected union of Arab free zones. Taking part in the meetings are delegates representing Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Libya, The Yemen Arab Republic, The Democratic Republic Yemen and Kuwait.

### Saudi Arabia to increase capital in Arab Potash Co.

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Saudi Arabia has decided to increase its share in the capital of the Arab Potash Company (APC) by JD 125,000. With the new participation, total Saudi participation in the company's capital will become JD 250,000.

### Jordanian manufactured goods to get new labels

AMMAN, Feb. 13 (JNA)—Local factories were requested today in circular issued by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to attach tags to all manufactured products stating in Arabic that they were made in Jordan. The new measure to be adopted next April exempts products manufactured for export as they can bear the trade mark and other information in a foreign language.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

My attention has been drawn to the editorial in Al Dustour on an alleged statement by Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai on Arab-Israeli relations reprinted in English in the Arab Press Commentary column of your esteemed newspaper of January 31.

It is wrong to say that Prime Minister Desai has ever called on the Arabs to relinquish the desire to destroy Israel. Prime Minister Desai has obviously been misquoted and it is possible that some remarks by him regarding the right of all countries in this region to independent existence and development have been taken out of context. The Indian prime minister has repeatedly stated that India stands for evacuation by Israel of all occupied Arab territories, recognition and restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including the right to form their own national state and the right of all countries to independent existence and development.

A.G. Goni  
Ambassador of India

Feb. 7, 1979

## NOTICE TO OUR READERS

JORDAN WEEKLY CALENDAR has resumed publication each Friday on a regular basis. We would like to draw our readers' attention to the fact that the Jordan Times must be informed of events to be included in this column well in advance; the deadline is 12:00 noon Thursday.

This is to ensure that all events for the following week are listed, as they will continue to be listed—without charge—daily under WHAT'S GOING ON.

## INVITATION FOR TENDER

To supply and install audio-visual equipment including public address and simultaneous language translation system as well as projection equipment.

Qualified interested parties may receive a copy of the specifications from the offices of Diran & Bitar Consulting Engineers - Second Circle - Jabal Amman, against a non-refundable fee of JD 15.

The tenders should be returned before 11th March, 1979.

Amman Chamber of Commerce.

1250

# American to shed light on little known epoch in Aleppo's history

By Far McDowell  
Special to the Jordan Times

**DAMASCUS**—An obscure epoch of Syrian history is being shed by a young American woman who hopes to produce a doctoral dissertation that will be definitive work on the late Ottoman and early 19th centuries of Aleppo.

Marlee Meriwether arrived in Syria last September for one year of research as a Fulbright fellow from the history department of the University of Pennsylvania.

Ironically, she is researching Aleppo in Damascus. All Ottoman archives of Aleppo and Damascus are in the Markas Al Athariq Al-Tarikhiyya Museum in Damascus, she explained.

"It's very exciting to be working in the original sources, to actually be thumbing through records that are 200 years old."

Ms. Meriwether does indeed read the original Arabic texts—she has more than six years study of

classical Arabic under her belt, two of which were spent in Cairo.

"I've been trained to read legal and historical documents," she confessed, "but if I were to try to read a classical Arabic poem, I'm afraid I would be totally at sea."

"The handwritten script varies markedly between each of the four courts that were extant in Aleppo during the early 19th century. Sometimes the calligraphy is very clear, sometimes it's very difficult to decipher, but it's exciting work."

Why did she select the 1770s to 1830s for her dissertation?

"When I was ready to begin my dissertation, I realised that in terms of history there was very little material on the first three decades of 19th century Syria."

"In general, most histories of the modern Middle East make assumptions on the 18th and 19th centuries—they dismiss whatever changes took place to the impact caused by Western influences. In most cases, we know so little about the Middle East before the 19th

century that I find these assumptions to be questionable."

"What I'm trying to do is find out what Middle Eastern societies—specifically that of Aleppo—were like during this little known period."

"Around 1832 a very important break occurred in the history of Aleppo. That's when the Egyptians invaded all Syria and significantly altered political and social history. But instead of stating that all these changes were caused by events taking place during the reign of the Egyptian Ibrahim Pasha—why not find out what else was occurring?"

Ms. Meriwether noted that the beginning point of her study coincides with a period of transition for Aleppo. In the 1770s, the British stopped shipping their silk from Persia through Aleppo.

In addition to the decline in commerce, the period was a politically turbulent one due to the rivalry between the Ottoman governor and the army which was compounded by resistance from Syrian nationalists. In 1819, a major nationalist rebellion was crushed by Ottoman forces in Aleppo.

"Simultaneously, Aleppo was struck by a series of natural disasters," she said. "Periodic plagues devastated the city. Then in 1822 a severe earthquake shook most of its major structures to the ground...many were not rebuilt until the 1880s."

"The chronicles state there was a significant decline in population at this time as well."

In reference to the chronicles, Ms. Meriwether explained much of her work is to see if these materials jibe with court documents.

"What are chronicles?" the Jordan Times inquired.

"Chronicles are chiefly biographical dictionaries and historical compilations," she answered. "Unfortunately, very few newspapers have been preserved for Aleppo of the period I'm researching. What I must rely upon as contemporary reporting are historical summaries and biographical dictionaries—the nearest modern analogy is an almanac—which list short biographies of persons who died during a given year."

"Of course, these are subjective because it was the writer who decided what person was worthy of being included. Since the chronicles were generally prepared by religious scholars, the individuals mentioned usually had religious connections."

A typical work day for Ms. Meriwether, who lives with a Syrian family in the Bah Touma area of Old Damascus, is to spend the mornings in the museum archives building in Souk Saruja, then to devote her afternoons to reading chronicles in the French Institute library.

"It's necessary to go over my notes each evening because if I've misspelled a name or not written sufficient descriptions, it would be a monumental task to find the specific information six months from now. It would be impossible once I've left Syria."

Ms. Meriwether enthusiastically praises the Syrian Department of Museums and Antiquities: "It has given me the utmost in cooperation; I find the authorities here much more helpful than in Cairo."

The documents she is dealing with are for the large part devoted to property sales.

"During the Ottoman period, judges served more or less in the same capacity as what we know today as notary publics," she explained.

"The papers I'm dealing with give me no idea of the penal system—they solely concern litigation on money owed. However, I did run across one case in which a man had been imprisoned for unpaid debts, but he was later released because his dependents had no source of income other than him."

The documents also register inheritances and divorces. Marriage contracts are almost nil except for those of Christians—"I have no idea why Muslim records are omitted," she said.

Although it is too early in her research to draw conclusions, Ms. Meriwether notes that frequently, upon the death of the male head of the house, the widow was named executor of the estate for minor children...not the elder brother of the deceased.

"At this point, I'd say the economic rights of children were carefully safeguarded. If an orphaned child was left property, the judge approved a deed of sale of the minor's holdings only when it was proved necessary for his financial support."

Ms. Meriwether hopes that through her exhaustive research of property sales she will be able to discern what types of property were being sold in specific areas of



The citadel of Aleppo, the focal point of this northern Syrian metropolis, about which Marlee Meriwether is preparing a doctoral dissertation covering the late 18th and early 19th centuries. (Photo by Marwan Musilmani).

Aleppo.

"From this, I hope to arrive at socio-economic-demographic changes occurring in Aleppo over a 60-year period."

A few of the questions she is asking are:

How was the social structure modified from the 1770s to the 1830s in terms of who owned property?

What kind of property was valued highly and was being sold—housing, businesses, horses, clothing?

Is it possible to determine what individuals had wealth and power in the city?

Did the people who were wealthy in the 1770s retain their wealth 60 years later or is there a trend toward social mobility—are new families influential in the 1830s?

"Hopefully, my dissertation will

focus on the different groups and families that coexisted in Aleppo and what their inter-relationships were."

"Again, it's rather early to state this, but it seems that families mentioned in the early documents tend to fade and new names to occur. My task is to discover if the family died out or if this was a demographic change. If these are actually new families, I must determine their origins."

"The documents allow me to pinpoint the relative value of a residence as compared to a khan or individual shop. Prices indicate the property values of a city."

"A series of trade networks were opened for Aleppo when it was annexed by the Ottoman Empire. Until the arrival of the Turks, the frontier with Anatolia had been closed, Aleppo was obliged to orient its trade to the south or east. With the arrival of

the Turks, business flourished with Istanbul and Europe. The Ottoman rule was turbulent, but it fostered trade for Aleppo."

In all objectivity, Ms. Meriwether notes that she cannot detect any Turkish attempt at cultural colonisation.

"I think the court documents are the best proof of this—they were written in Arabic, not Turkish. The administration very definitely was in the control of the Turks, but the local population was allowed to function in its native language and script."

"Granted, if a wealthy Syrian family wants its sons to achieve, it sent them to Istanbul for their education so that they'd be eligible for judgeships or other important posts."

Ms. Meriwether says she's daily learning residential geography of Aleppo.

"Now I can determine where each quarter was located by the Christian, Kurd, Muslim and Jewish names recorded."

"Many parts of Old Aleppo are well preserved," she said, "particularly the areas north and south of the souk. Pockets of the City were destroyed by roa government buildings constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries all but devastated the south of the citadel."

"Within the city walls, I essential parts of the old Christian quarter have been preserved. I many marvellous old dwellings threatened because they've been turned into schools."

"I would recommend that a visitor to Aleppo explore the khans, particularly the ones labelled as tourist attractions. There is a wealth of antiquity so extant in Aleppo—if you seek for it."

## Will role of women in Jordan shape social change?

By Serene R. Farraj  
Special to the Jordan Times

**AMMAN**, Feb. 13—The problems and challenges to face Jordan in the coming decade of social changes will be marked by an era of urbanisation and industrialisation, a lecturer from Jordan University told the women's club on Wheel today.

In his talk "Jordan's Social Challenges in the 1980's", Dr. Ki Ayoubi addressed the wives of the Rotarians during their inner club bi-weekly meeting at the environmental Hotel. The meeting was attended by Princess Haya.

Dr. Ayoubi said the coming years will bring a period of hectic development that will shift Jordan's social roots out of the countryside and villages to cities.

"First, we will enter into an era of urbanisation. While most of us in this country were born or grew in villages or small towns, half a century from now, half of the Jordanians will be born in cities in the coming ten years. We will not have our roots in the countryside, as we do, but rather in cities. Our material development, until now, has moved faster than our psychological development. But in the 1980's we will change psychologically," he said.

The second major change Jordan will experience, Dr. Ayoubi said, is a transformation into a country dominated by industry. More young men and women working in mines, manufacturing, banking, insurance, and health education services. But Jordan will not become a heavily industrial country because of high energy cost and a small labour force.

While most Jordanians fifty years ago were bedouins and villagers by 1989 they will be city workers and office employees," Dr. Ayoubi said.

The third major social impact will be bureaucratisation. "The most dominant organisation in our society was the family and the tribe; but these traditional units will weaken and formal bureaucratic organisations will become dominant," Dr. Ayoubi said. More and more of time is taken by organisations

and less and less by the family."

Dr. Ayoubi said that these forces will make the family smaller, and extended families will be less important than before. Urban life, while having several advantages, will generate more loneliness and less personal interaction.

"People will tend to be more busy, less sentimental, and the pace of life faster. The city deprives people of close physical contact with the earth, plants, animals and in many cases, clean air. Such a loss cannot be replaced," he said.

"Our village and desert background helped create a set of values, customs, and beliefs that aided, protected and encouraged the individual and provided him with a measure of security. Will we be able to replace our customs with new ones adapted to an urban, industrial and bureaucratised society? This will be a major challenge of the 1980's he said.

Women in the 1980's will play a greater role in all aspects of life. "For the first time in our history, most mothers in the 1980's will not only be literate, but also more aware of the world around them because of increased mobility and the mass media," Dr. Ayoubi said. Being more educated and having a smaller family, women will have more time to work and do other activities. Women now constitute about ten per cent of our labour force, Dr. Ayoubi said. In the coming ten years, one would expect this figure to rise to at least 20 per cent. With more financial income, women will have a stronger role in society as a whole and within the family," he said. However, the role women will play in active public life will grow slowly because men will make it difficult for women to share power.

"The main challenge for women in the 1980's will be how to strike a balance between the world of work and the family, and be successful in both. The direction that our society will take in the 1980's will be determined by the role of women. What women do in the 1980's as mothers, wives, managers, workers and leaders, will shape generations of Jordanians in the next century," Dr. Ayoubi said.



Marlee Meriwether is at home in Damascus as she heads for the National Museum archives daily to research Aleppo history of the 18th and 19th centuries.

## LOCAL

## EXCHANGE

## RATES

U.S. dollar	297.00/299.00
U.K. sterling	595.00/599.00
West German mark	160.20/161.20
Swiss franc	178.40/179.50
French franc	69.80/70.20
Italian lire	35.50/35.70
(for every 100)	
Japanese yen	149.00/149.90
(for every 100)	
Dutch guilder	148.20/149.10
Belgian franc	101.80/102.40
(for every ten)	
Swedish crown	68.20/68.60

## Coming & Going

Tourism director returns from Madrid

Ministry of Justice official leaves for S.Korea

**AMMAN**, Feb. 13 (JNA)—A two-man delegation led by the Under-Secretary of the Ministry of Tourism, Michael Hamarneh, returned here today from Madrid after representing Jordan at a meeting of the tourist rights committee of the World Organisation for Tourism. The 12-nation committee includes Jordan and Lebanon as representatives of the Middle East member countries of the organisation.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

A large apartment consisting of four bedrooms, large reception room, sitting/dining room, office, kitchen, three enclosed verandas and large modern kitchen with central heating. Second storey Phone and private entrance.  
Location: Opposite City Supermarket  
Price: JD 3,500 per year.  
Please contact tel. 67349.

## SECRETARY REQUIRED

An Arab secretary (male or female) is needed for full time employment, to handle usual secretarial work. Should be very efficient in typing English. Salary negotiable.

Write to: POB 2832, Amman, with photo and details.

## Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Par value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	2,008	6,560	6,570	6,570
Jordan Cement Factories	JD 10,000	2,116	14,400	—	14,400
Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	1,408	1,700	1,760	1,760
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	1,440	1,320	1,340	1,320
Al Ezdihar Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	1,473	1,070	—	1,070
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	107	1,050	1,080	1,070
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1,000	101	—	—	1,010
Cairo-Amman Bank	JD 5,000	2,600	6,510	6,550	6,500

Total volume traded, Tuesday, Feb. 13: JD 11,253

Total number of shares traded: 4,332

	Par value	Volume traded	Number traded	Year of maturity	Selling price
Government Development Bonds	JD 5,000	1,054	210	1979	5,020
	JD 5,000	500	97	1980	5,160
	JD 5,000	126	25	1982	5,065
	JD 5,000	787	154	1986	5,115

Total volume traded: JD 2,467

## DINNER PARTY

You will enjoy the most delightful evening at the Professional Complex Club, Shmeisani. Luxurious dinner; valuable presents and prizes; discotheque Cloud Seven. To the tunes of Arab and western dance music and songs, you will spend the most wonderful evenings.

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One set of tender documents can be obtained from either:

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OR

Preece Cardew & Rider Paston House 165-167 Preston Road Brighton BN 1 - 6 AF Sussex - England.

at a non-refundable amount of JD 60 or £100 for each set of this tender.

Tenders are to be returned to the: Jordan Electricity Authority Head offices at 12 noon on 30/4/79

## TODAY'S WEATHER

The weather will continue to be warm with medium and high winds and light variable becoming at times southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba Gulf there will be northerly moderate winds and seas.

temperatures:	Overnight minimum	Daytime maximum
Amman	10	22
Taba	14	28
Redan Valley	15	26
Deserts	8	24

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# The agriculture connection

By Jonathan Stone

ELAIDE. Australia—A lead Australian agronomist says research and post-graduate training linkages should be established between Australia and countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

Mr. Edward D. Carter, a senior agronomist at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, in Adelaide, South Australia, has made this recommendation as a consultant to the newly formed International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), which is establishing an research and training centres in Aleppo, Syria and Tabriz, Iran, and a secretariat in Beirut, Lebanon.

In his report to ICARDA Mr. Carter says Australia, and particularly its southern regions, have a great deal of expertise, equipment and experience of analogous agricultural situations to offer the dry countries.

"He suggests that those countries could send their graduates in agriculture to South Australia to study soils and climatic conditions similar to their own and that governments of the region might opt the corrective policies which have proved effective in Australia. Mr. Carter has visited the Mid-

dle East and North African region five times since 1973 at the invitation of CIMMYT (the international centre for grain research in Mexico), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Bank.

In 1977, to prepare his report on the agricultural potential of the area for ICARDA, he travelled more than 20,000 km by car in Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan.

He says that many of the lessons learned by Australia in the past 100 years could apply to the arid range land, steppe, the semi-steppe and adjacent cereal cropping zones of the countries he has studied.

"Accordingly, South Australia in particular has much to offer in the science and technology of land clearing, tillage practice and pasture improvement (especially the potential use of self-generating pasture legumes) as well as the general techniques relating to cereal and livestock production and integration of these enterprises.

"In learning from its mistakes, Australia has developed a deliberate policy of reducing both livestock numbers and human settlement in its arid and semi-arid areas," Mr. Carter says.

In his report to ICARDA he notes that there is an increasing concern in the other arid lands at the deficit in food production, despite national agricultural development programs and aid from bilateral and multilateral agencies.

"Not only has there been a deficit in the production of human food, but also a rapidly increasing deficit in livestock feed in most countries of the region," he says.

Mr. Carter says these deficits are the consequence of a rapid increase in both human population and livestock numbers in the past 30 years.

Most Governments of the region have recognised these agricultural problems, according to Mr. Carter, and have taken steps to achieve national self-sufficiency in cereal production.

"While there have been some spectacular improvements in cereal production, some of these advances have been at the expense of the pasture-livestock sector, which in most countries has been grossly neglected."

Mr. Carter explains that, to counter similar mistakes in Australia, there has been a gradual retraction from semi-arid and marginal cereal-growing areas to zones receiving more assured rainfall.

"Similarly, the most reliable method of preserving the productivity of the arid range land steppe zones is to reduce the livestock numbers and human settlement in these areas."

"This can be done by providing alternative sources of livestock feed, that is by greatly increasing pasture and forage crop production in the traditional rainfed and irrigated crop zones and higher rainfall areas of the region."

"There is great potential for increasing both livestock and crop production in the region while, at the same time, reducing grazing pressure on the steppe, and eliminating the serious water erosion problems of much of the cereal-producing areas and higher-rainfall hill country."

Mr. Carter says the outstanding rural problem of the region is the disastrous deterioration of national resources.

"This has meant the decline throughout the area of useful arable land through erosion caused by reckless cultivation and through soil salinity; the decline of range land through uncontrolled cultivation, consequent desertification and desert encroachment; and the decline in range land productivity through over grazing and consequent denudation, aggravated by removal of grass, shrubs and trees for fuel."

"These three components of the degradation of national resources are closely interrelated and result from the rapid rise in human population and livestock numbers."

"There is an inadequate level of national investment in agriculture

and a gross neglect of the pasture-range land-livestock sector," Mr. Carter says.

He warns that until agriculture receives a higher percentage of national investment, deficits in human food and livestock feed, and the consequent devastation of both crop and grazing land, are likely to continue.

In spite of what he calls "this gloomy picture", there is clear evidence of a potential for greatly increasing livestock feed by the widespread sowing of pasture and forage-crop legumes on fallow lands in the traditional rainfed and irrigated cropping areas, and for improvement in the levels of soil nitrogen and yields of subsequent cereal crops.

There is also considerable potential to improve pasture productivity through use of phosphatic fertilizer in the humid zones of the region.

He says leguminous pastures and forage crops should increase levels of soil organic matter, and improve soil structure and filtration.

Mr. Carter points out that properly managed, a dense stand of annual legumes will control weeds through competition and through livestock grazing.

There should also be substantial increases in cereal yields as a consequence of the improved soil fertility.

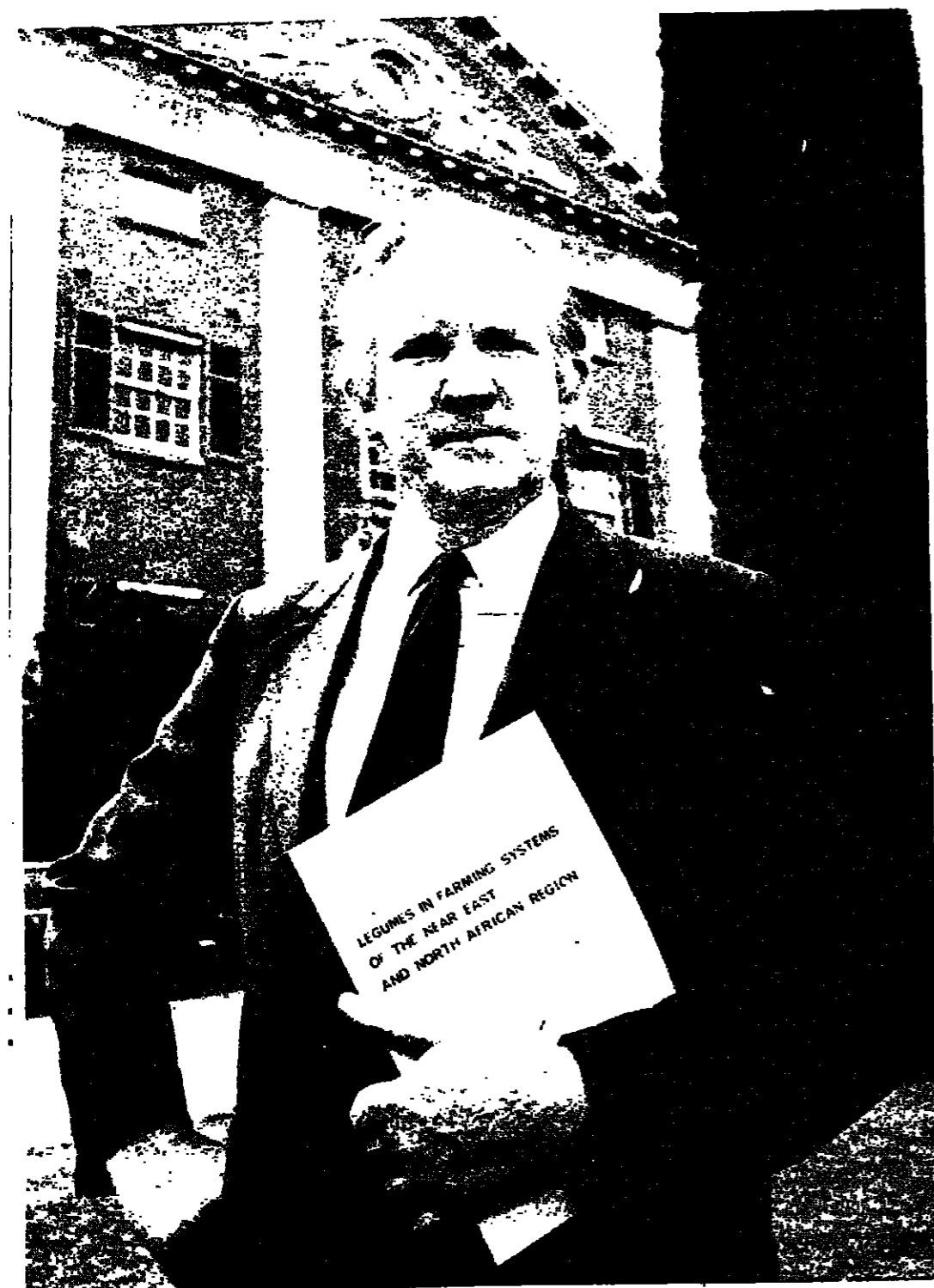
"The clear implication from this," Mr. Carter adds, "is that the grazing pressure on the range lands can be greatly reduced, thus allowing slow rehabilitation of these areas."

## Martian Mystery



This strange feature inside a Martian crater is the subject of a special study by scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. Although nicknamed "White Rock," its composition is unknown. The researchers have determined it is not ice or snow because

of its equatorial location. Measuring 14 by 16 kilometres, the feature was first seen by Mariner-9 in 1972. This higher resolution mosaic is from pictures returned this fall by the Viking Orbiters launched from Florida in 1975. (ICA)



Mr. Carter at the Waite Agriculture Research Institute

## Violence from war toys?

This article is reprinted from the Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt

By Anneliese Steinboff

Although the Bundestag has rejected a motion to ban the manufacture and sale of toy weapons in West Germany, many teachers, psychologists, and parents would like to see them forced off the market.

The Treaty of Versailles banned the manufacture of toy weapons in post-World War One Germany, but it was resumed in the 1930s when it was thought desirable to provide children with an enemy figure, thus preparing them in the playground for war.

After World War Two, war toys were again banned and it was 1956 when they reappeared in the toyshops.

In 1976, Radio Vatican called for the disarmament of children, saying it was grotesque to worry about rising juvenile crime while creating enthusiasm for toy weapons.

It is part of the magic of firearms that they give the feeling: "I am the greatest, the strongest, master of life and death."

This showing off and ego-boasting is part of the appeal of toy weapons. Adults who otherwise pay no attention to me, reasons the child, are frightened by my cap pistols.

These toys require no learning, no imagination, and no perseverance. All that is needed is the ability to pull the trigger. They give no feeling of happiness and fraternity.

Tools, instruments, or ball games, on the other hand, help develop personal relations. War

games, however, are dominated by the lowest form of human relations: violence.

Everything surrounding these toys evokes violence. The gun muzzle of the small Leopard tank, painted a martial grey-green and remote controlled, lights up with the threatening red of rapid fire when aimed at tin soldiers. The boy shouts with joy: "They've had it!"

Meanwhile, dive bombers attack a group of men in a jeep, and the child rejoices with the comment: "That lot's kicked the bucket."

Miniature soldiers in hand-to-hand combat are shifted towards each other and topple ("that one's got his belly full of lead.")

These toys come in cartons with everything needed to re-enact World War Two battles involving the German Wehrmacht. There is, for instance, the soldier to be dressed and armed with a sub-machine gun by the boy. Some manufacturers supply card games with the latest military hardware on the back.

Father argues that this enables the child to let off steam, but psychological research disproves the catharsis theory.

Experiments show that playing with weapons makes children more aggressive, but as soon as they are removed from sight, the desire to fight, kill, and destroy also disappears. Toy weapons do not promote cooperative behaviour or initiative and are therefore anti-social and harmful.

But there is physical danger as well. Of the 500,000 accidents involving children in West Germany every year, 75 per cent are

eye injuries caused by firearms, spears, arrows, and other martial toys.

What can be done about the seduction of our children by the toy industry? The Bundestag motion to ban the manufacture and sale of war toys was turned down because legislation would violate the constitutional right to engage in business. The state assumes that the citizen is guided by common sense and responsibility.

But many realistic people, among them educationalists, psychologists, social workers and mothers, consider penalising the sale and manufacture of toy weapons, — for instance by special taxation — as both possible and desirable.

It is unlikely that the toy industry will voluntarily stop making and selling a highly profitable line. The president of the association of toy manufacturers has made it quite clear that the industry intends to produce what the market wants.

He distinguishes between military and ideological toys, saying that the latter are not made in West Germany.

The German toy trade imports war toys with swastikas from Japan and Britain. Figures of World War Two military leaders and politicians are mostly made in Austria.

The only way of combating this trend is not to buy. Watching children in toyshops, it seems that they are not interested in military toys. They reach for sophisticated technical toys, building sets, airliners, cars, telephones, and popular TV puppets.

There is fierce international

competition among toymakers and it is likely to intensify as the post Pill-gap generation becomes the target.

Of Germany's 20 most important manufacturers, ten are foreign-owned.

The East bloc countries and some Asian nations (Hong Kong and Taiwan) can sell at much lower prices due to low wages.

The necessity to come up with something new is particularly pronounced in the toy business. New toys fire the imagination of children who get more toys than they need. World War Two toys have found a niche in the market, being bought by thoughtless and nostalgic fathers, uncles and aunts. But why do some children enjoy playing with weapons? And why should this have anything to do with family atmosphere? It is a truism that a child experiences the world as his parents do. An intolerant, explosive and belligerent family atmosphere can put pressure on children — for instance, if busy parents forget that their child is still ignorant, inexperienced, and weak and therefore unable to do certain things expected of him.

Many parents are unable to slow down the pace required of them at work and when a child wants to talk, groping for words, he is told to be quiet. This creates fear, desperation and anger in the child. And when he vents his aggressions by refusing to talk, kicking his mother in the shins, or scratching father's car he gets a hiding. The only place where he can let off steam unpunished is the playground, and he does it by playing with guns.

Why is there so much shooting in our schoolyards? Children are

out to get the better of another and violence is one way.

Only a few schools have seen it that children learn lessons dealing with each other and learn to help one another.

Of course, there will always be fights among children, but they need not be vicious. Very often, can recognise the TV western last night in the playground of today.

Some TV scenes are so exciting that the pent-up emotions cry out to be vented in imitative games. Children also identify with the man wielding the gun because he is seen as successful.

Researcher Professor H. Mieskes of Giessen University said: "Our efforts to bring war into children's play are thwarted by television."

Children are allowed to share a TV screen for hours, watch mostly mysteries, westerns, war movies, with its unending shooting and brutality.

This is borne out by daily scenes in our streets: A boy points a gun at a startled middle-aged woman and fires. The woman, stunned, first, smiles at the boy, trying to show that she is a friend. But the boy does not return the smile, runs off to repeat the performance with a pensioner who, shocked, first, starts to chide him. But has run off to scare some other unwary passer-by.

On one corner a gang of boys engage in an orgy of shoot-out with Winchester rifles, Indians with mazzle loaders, bows and arrows. A sheriff shoots from the hip and Mafia gangsters tote pistols to La Belmundo. The body shoots at everybody else.

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# ZAPU leader claims: Rhodesian guerrillas shot down airliner

ONDON, Feb. 13 (R)—Rhodesian nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo has claimed his guerrilla followers shot down the Rhodesian Viscount airliner which crashed yesterday, killing all 59 people on board, Addis Ababa Radio reported today.

The radio, monitored in London, said Mr. Nkomo had told his men this morning his men ought down the plane which crashed shortly after take off from the northern lakeside resort of Harare.

Military sources in Rhodesia said the airliner was hit by missiles fired by black nationalist guerrillas.

Mr. Nkomo, co-leader of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance, said his men were trying to hit a plane carrying military commander Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, probably the most powerful man in Rhodesia now at 90 per cent of the country is under military rule.

A Viscount carrying the general flew 15 minutes behind the one which crashed. The general's plane arrived safely in Salisbury.

According to a recording which Addis Ababa Radio said was Mr. Nkomo speaking, he said: "Our men brought down this... Viscount."

"Now, what I must stress here is that our men were aiming at an important target — Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, who is the com-

mander of the Rhodesia army, who they had assumed was on that same plane that came to Harare."

Mr. Nkomo is leader of the Zambia-based ZAPU (Zimbabwe African Peoples Union).

ZAPU claimed responsibility for a missile attack last September which downed another Air Rhodesia Viscount in the same area. That attack resulted in 48 deaths.

In Lusaka today ZAPU spokesmen declined to comment on the latest attack.

Informed sources in the Zambian capital said Mr. Nkomo arrived in Nairobi today after a visit to Ethiopia and was expected to return to his Lusaka base later today.

The September attack led to swift retaliatory raids by Rhodesian forces against alleged guerrilla bases in Zambia and Mozambique. The Rhodesians claimed to have killed more than 1,500 insurgents in the raids.

The two most obvious means of Rhodesian retaliation to the latest incident are fresh attacks against Zambian guerrilla bases and a refusal to allow Zambia to use Rhodesian transport routes for import and export.

Informed sources said that one of the conditions stipulated by Salisbury for agreeing to move vital food and fertiliser through Rhodesia from South Africa into Zambia, and copper out of the neighbouring country, was that there should be no more attacks on Rhodesian air traffic.

And in recent weeks, the sources said, Zambia has made secret approaches to reopen road links between the two countries so that Rhodesian maize and sugar could be moved into Zambia without overloading an already congested railway system.

There will be strong pressure on Premier Ian Smith to sever all economic ties with Zambia and white Rhodesians will find themselves increasingly claustrophobic. Kariba used to be one of their safest havens for a respite from the war.

## Tito to head state funeral ceremonies for closest aide

BELGRADE, Feb. 13 (R)—Yugoslav President Tito today pays his last respects to Edvard Kardelj, his closest aide for more than 40 years and the ideological brain behind the country's independent brand of communism.

President Tito, 86, who cut short a two-week visit to four Middle Eastern countries by two days, flew to the northwestern Yugoslav city of Ljubljana to head the ceremonies at Mr. Kardelj's state funeral.

Mr. Kardelj, 69, died of cancer at the central hospital in Ljubljana, his native town. Until about a year ago, when it became clear that his cancer condition was very grave, Mr. Kardelj was regarded as President Tito's obvious successor.

Very soon, a Pakistani film entitled "My name is Love" will be shown at Jordanian theatres. The film is one of the best Pakistani films and has had a number of international prizes. More films will follow.

Credit goes to the people of Jordan who encouraged the idea with great zeal and to the Pakistani Embassy, and Jordanian agencies that helped make the scheme a reality. To them we offer our gratitude.

## Pakistani films hit the Jordanian movie theatres



The Jordanian Theatres have not shown any Pakistani films for over thirty years although such films have been shown all over the world. The Pakistani film has become competitive even against international ones due to its progress and good standard. Following a study by Mr. Ghazan Shareef Malik

and encouraged by the Jordanian people's eagerness to know more about the people of Pakistan, its history and traditions, it was seen fit to introduce Pakistani films to Jordan so that the people here may learn something about the culture of the great Islamic people in Pakistan.

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Credit goes to the people of Jordan who encouraged the idea with great zeal and to the Pakistani Embassy, and Jordanian agencies that helped make the scheme a reality. To them we offer our gratitude.

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## Last-ditch effort Bhutto's defence lawyers ask for stay of execution

RAWALPINDI, Feb. 13 (R)—The Pakistan Supreme Court meets tomorrow to consider a last-ditch plea to stay the execution of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Defence lawyers lodged a petition today asking the court to review its rejection last Tuesday of Mr. Bhutto's appeal against the death sentence for ordering the assassination of a political opponent.

The court said it would consider the petition tomorrow along with a request to stay his execution. The court meets only a day before Mr. Bhutto, 51, becomes liable for execution by hanging.

Mr. Bhutto's lawyers hope the court will delay the execution and allow them time to argue their petition for a review of the judgment, which could

take two or three months. But they appeared to have little hope they could persuade the seven-man bench to reverse its 4-3 majority decision to hang the former premier.

The lawyers are allowed to argue only on errors apparent in the 800-page court judgment. Their petition concentrates on ballistic evidence, alleged bias against Mr. Bhutto during his trial last year and the fact that he was not present when several witnesses were questioned in court. The 90-page petition alleges numerous grave and serious instances of misreading of evidence and misapplication of the law.

Mr. Bhutto awaits the court's decision in a small white-washed cell in Rawalpindi's district jail.

## Impact of Iran's revolution could be blockbuster for U.K.

LONDON, Feb. 13 (R)—Britain is counting the likely cost to it in business and oil of Iran's whirlwind revolution. British officials are waiting in Tehran to discuss with the new rulers the cancellation or modification of

defence contracts worth more than £1 billion.

Several major oil companies here have announced reductions in crude oil supplies, despite Britain's North Sea deposits, and Energy Secretary Tony Benn asked consumers to exercise restraint.

The companies are also concerned about long-term prospects. Ayatollah Khomeini has attacked Washington and London for being the most prominent supporters of the Shah.

And newspapers here yesterday reflected concern about the future of Britain's interests in what was, until recently, its most valuable ally and trading partner in the region.

The conservative Daily Telegraph said: "From the Western point of view, this is nothing less than a long series of disasters."

And the Financial Times business paper warned in its editorial: "The situation is fraught with dangers both for the people of Iran and for the West which still has a major interest in seeing stability return to a strategically important country whose influence in an increasingly volatile area vulnerable to radical inter-

vention could still be great." Economists estimate that up to 100,000 badly-needed jobs could be lost here if Iran dried up completely as a market for British exports.

Military sales represent a major part of British export. Some have already been cancelled and all are in jeopardy.

State-owned British Aerospace sold Iran guided weapons worth around £700 million and big pending contracts will almost certainly be slashed or cancelled completely.

More than 1,200 special Chieftain heavy tanks, of the sort seen on the streets of Tehran last weekend, are on order in a deal worth about £700 million and British officials are expected to argue hard for the continuation of this contract.

London has already lost a £740 million stake in the building of a huge ordnance factory at the Iranian city of Isfahan.

British cars are made under licence in Iran and, including invisibles such as shipping, banking and insurance, U.K. exports to the Shah amounted to some 1.4 billion in 1977.

## Tanzanian president tells 'Group of 77' developing nations: 'Unity is our only instrument of liberation'

ARUSHA, Tanzania, Feb. 13 (R)—Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere said yesterday poor states must strengthen their unity and free themselves from foreign financial domination.

"So far we have been negotiating as noisy and importunate supplicants. We need to negotiate from a position of steadily increasing power," Dr. Nyerere told a ministerial meeting of the "Group of 77" developing states which he described as "a kind of trade

union of the poor."

"Sometimes we may be forced to call a strike in order to show that certain things are no longer acceptable. But a trade union is strong in proportion to its unity. The Third World does not have a strike fund and hunger strikes are not the weapon of the starving," the Tanzanian leader added in his opening speech.

The need for unity among the group's members, who now number 117, was apparent at last week's preparatory meeting of senior officials. Following a series of lengthy wrangles, the final plenary session of the meeting had to be postponed from Friday until yesterday and there is still discussion on several key issues.

Dr. Nyerere touched on the dis-

parate political nature of group members. "Some of us are avowedly scientific socialists, some just plain socialists, some capitalist, some theocratic and some fascist," he said.

He said that because of this there was a tendency for sub-groups to form, but he warned: "divide and rule" is an old technique of domination. The developed nations are not unaware of its usefulness."

President Nyerere said the poor nations had learned that legal independence did not mean economic freedom. "We are not the prime movers of our own destiny. We are ashamed to admit it, but economically we are dependencies—semi colonies at best—not sovereign states," he

said.

The long term aim of the group is the establishment of a new world economic order. The meeting in this northern hill town is in preparation for the fifth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Manila in May.

On the strengthening of unity, Dr. Nyerere said: "We may have to cooperate functionally with governments which we intensely dislike and disapprove of. The object is to complete the liberation of the Third World countries from external domination. That is the basic meaning of the new international economic order. 'Unity is our instrument—our only instrument—of liberation,'" he added.

## World News Briefs

### EEC official stresses trade interdependence

LUXEMBOURG, Feb. 13 (R)—The Common Market should become less introspective and turn more towards its trading partners in the rest of the world, EEC Commission President Roy Jenkins told the European Parliament today. Presenting his annual report on the state of the nine-nation community, President Jenkins said the EEC's relationships with the United States and China were particularly important. He stressed the growing interdependence of the world's developed nations and the necessity of successfully concluding the multilateral trade negotiations currently taking place in Geneva. But because of the EEC's dependency on world markets, it must become more efficient and internally cohesive, Mr. Jenkins said. The production of large food surpluses, notably of milk and sugar, had to be halted and a general farm price freeze was an essential step towards achieving this, he said.

### India: Thousands in jail awaiting trial

NEW DELHI, Feb. 13 (R)—The government of India's two largest states have estimated that they have about 40,000 prisoners in an awaiting trial—three times the number of those actually convicted in a crime. The Uttar Pradesh Government announced yesterday that it would appoint 300 special magistrates in the next two months to help clear the huge backlog of cases before its courts. Official figures released in the state capital of Lucknow showed there were 21,000 prisoners awaiting trial in the state's 64 jails against 9,000 convicted prisoners. Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur told newsmen last week that of the 25,000 people in jails in his state, between 19,000 and 20,000 were those awaiting or undergoing trial. The plight of the tens of thousands of Indians awaiting trial in criminal cases was first brought to light last month by a member of the National Police Commission investigating the country's prison and legal systems.

### Egyptian mummies found to be father, son

LIVERPOOL, England, Feb. 13 (R)—A 2,000-year-old Egyptian mummy in Liverpool City Museum has been found to be the father of another in West Germany, a museum spokesman said today. It is believed to be the first time that two mummies not of royal blood have been found to be related. They date from the Ptolemy period, 300 B.C. to 30 B.C. "This is a discovery which opens up a lot of avenues for research for the future. But a lot more work has to be done yet," said the spokesman. The mummy of Nesima, who died aged about 35, is in the Liverpool Museum and that of Ankhes, who is now found to be his son who lived until about 50, was found here from the Hildesheim Museum in West Germany. Scientists at Liverpool Maternity Hospital began the detective work when it was spotted that both had a congenital defect similar to that caused by arthritis and that their coffins and the wrapping techniques used were similar.

## Spy operation uncovered at NATO headquarters

BRUSSELS, Feb. 13 (R)—The first case of spying at NATO's headquarters in Brussels in nine years was confirmed yesterday by Western alliance sources after the arrest of a woman secretary. The woman worked at West Germany's embassy in the NATO alliance and had been arrested on suspicion of spying for East German intelligence.

The weekly news magazine Der Spiegel reported that the woman, Ingrid Garbe, had been arrested the previous weekend and would return to Bonn.

Mrs. Garbe was posted to Brussels in March, 1976, as a political counsellor at the West German Embassy. She was said to be a NATO spokesman said she belonged to the West German Foreign Ministry and not to NATO's international staff as the official statement would have to be released in Bonn.

The last case of spying at NATO headquarters dates back to 1970 when a French man was accused of photocopying secret documents. The Spiegel report said Mrs. Garbe had access to top secret documents and the ones she passed on dealt chiefly with the Vienna East-West troop reduction talks and the negotiations on limitation of strategic arms.

However, a number of previous spying scandals in West Germany where thousands of spies are at work according to unofficial estimates, have indirectly affected NATO.

The most serious was probably the betrayal of Renate Latz, secretary to the head of the West German Defence Ministry, Hans-Joachim Frey, in 1976.

It was later revealed she passed to East Berlin more than 1,000 documents on NATO's preparedness against Warsaw Pact forces. She was believed to have given information on the weaknesses of NATO, the West German systems of alarm in case of an emergency and assessments on tanks, guns and other weapons.

## Big risks for North Sea oil

By Margie Lindsay

Trying to cope with offshore oil and gas production is a massive task—even when the job runs smoothly. But one of the biggest nightmares of offshore oil and gas operators is the thought of losing a platform on the way to the field.

This catastrophe has happened to Petrobras, the Brazilian state oil company. A platform being built in Scotland for the company's Namorado Field in Brazil cut loose from its tugs and sank in 200 feet of water about 30 miles off the coast from Hartlepool, England.

The 560-foot platform went to its watery grave on its side in a force ten gale with wave-heights approaching 50 feet. The problem now facing the platform constructors and the Brazilians is just how to get the platform back up and hopefully on its way again.

Tugs have had to stand by to warn shipping since the base of the platform, about 200 feet wide, is visible at low tide. The entire platform is a hazard to shipping in the area.

What is even more upsetting in this particular case is that the incident can be seen as almost a fatal blow for British steel platform fabrication yards with hopes of exporting platforms—hopes they

have seriously harboured for some time but are now almost without substance. And among the leaders in this field is McDermott at Ardersier, Scotland, where the ill-fated Brazilian platform was built.

Although building steel structures and placing them on oil fields in the North Sea is considered, at the best of times, a very delicate and risky business, the problems in actually floating such mammoth structures with their attendant costs and vulnerability across the open seas to Brazil, South America or any other part of the world, is an even more awesome task.

So when the Brazilian platform sank, with it went some of McDermott's hopes, and some others' as well, of becoming really competitive exporters of British-built platforms.

One of the problems of fabricating the structures in the U.K. and then towing them to South America is trying to make the Southern Hemisphere "weather window"—that time of year, generally in the warmer months, when weather is almost guaranteed to be peaceful.

But for a platform built in Scotland to get to Brazil at the correct time of year, it needs to leave in the middle of a Scottish winter. Once, before Christmas, the

Brazilian platform was forced back because of bad weather conditions. The second time it set out it was not quite so lucky.

Until the weather clears and more detailed examinations of the sunken structure can be taken, very little about the conditions of the platform can be known. A side-scan sonar survey—a "picture" of the platform underwater taken from above the surface using sonar—has been taken and is being evaluated.

Some have begun to look ahead to the gigantic task of raising the platform from its present position. What exactly happens when a 6,000-ton structure falls suddenly onto the seabed is not yet known.

To lift the platform may require the largest construction barge now working—and even then the possibility of lifting the jacket in one piece is considered rather remote.

Some think that the platform may have to be cut into two pieces, with each section lifted separately. This job would need not only a team of experienced and skilled divers but also good weather and time.

Whatever happens, though, it seems almost certain that the platform won't make it to Brazil in time for installation during this year's weather window.

Most oil companies know and accept the risk they take whenever

## The \$22 million oil platform which has just sunk in the North Sea points out the kind of risks the oil companies face in that part of the world—but until the world stops needing oil in such vast quantities, the risks will have to be taken.

a large structure such as a platform is floated out to a field. During this time it is even more at the mercy of the weather and human error.

A few years ago Elf Aquitaine, a French oil company, found out how difficult and yet how easy it is to put a platform in the wrong place. While towing a platform to its Frigg Field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, the platform sank about two miles from the spot it was intended to be placed. The platform is still there and Elf seems no nearer to any solution of what to do with it or how to move it.

Aside from the problems that their enormous weight and size cause, these structures are vulnerable to corrosion and sea-growth, two things which begin to work on the steel almost as soon as they touch the water. Already the submerged, Brazilian platform may be sunk in mud, stuck on rocks and have the beginning of corrosion working.

The sinking of this relatively cheap platform—estimated to be worth about \$22 million—has once more highlighted the great financial risk that operators take every time they decide to develop a field.

Not only are the immediate financial risks immense, but the effects of losing time on the development programme for the

field when a structure is damaged or in this case, lost, is something that the accountants and operators consider a considerable headache. Insurance coverage for oil accidents is also another consideration. In this particular case, most of the re-insurance went back to the London market. It is whether this will have a permanent effect on the re-insurance market there is not known. Some insurance brokers have always suspected that a major disaster—such as a big oil fire or serious damage to something like a tanker—sunk in the North Sea would mean the London insurance market crashing to earth with a dramatic crash. And it is highly probable the operator would see the recovery, in financial terms, was lost.

But the eagerness to build is insatiable. The exploration, recovery and development will continue for a long time yet. Disasters like the sinking of the Brazilian platform will not stop the oil operators from taking greater financial and technical risks in the near future. The world stops needing oil in vast quantities, massive structures will continue to be built and the financial risks taken every day.

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